

Message Text

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15

ACTION STR-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00

AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FRB-02

H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15

PRS-01 SP-03 FEA-02 OMB-01 SWF-02 DRC-01 /241 W

----- 127656

R 192228Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1285

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL DISCIPLINE FOR SHORT SUPPLY ACTIONS

REF: STATE 74777

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED WITH FONOFF DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS DIEZ THOME PRELIMINARY U.S. THINKING ON COOPERATIVE APPROACH TO SHORT SUPPLY PROBLEM ALONG LINES REFTEL. DIAZ INITIAL REACTION WAS ONE OF SKEPTICISM THAT PROGRESS COULD BE MADE IN REACHING INTERNATIONAL CONSENSUS ON GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES DESPITE HIS PERSONAL RECOGNITION THAT PROBLEM IS OF VITAL IMPORTANCE. AS DISCUSSION PROCEEDED HOWEVER HE DEVELOPED INCREASING INTEREST IN U.S. APPROACH.

2. HE PARTICULARLY LIKED THE IDEA OF DISTINGUISHING AMONG THREE CLASSES OF COUNTRIES AND STARTING FROM PREMISE THAT COUNTRIES MUST HAVE FLEXIBILITY TO APPLY EXPORT CONTROLS WITHIN LIMITS OF NATIONAL SECURITY AND FOREIGN POLICY CONSIDERATIONS. IN MOVING ON TO AN AGREED REGIME OF INTERNATIONAL DISCIPLINE HE WAS PLEASED THAT THE U.S. WAS THINKING IN TERMS OF A COOPERATIVE AND CONSULTATIVE APPROACH. HE APPRECIATED THE PRESENTATION OF U.S. THINKING IN TERMS OF QUESTIONS, WHICH HE CONSIDERED WELL FORMULATED AND HELPFUL IN ENABLING MEXICO AND OTHER COUNTRIES THAT WE MIGHT BE CONSULTING TO DEVELOP POSITIONS OF THEIR OWN.

3. DIAZ STATED THAT HE HAS BEEN WRESTLING WITH THIS SAME PROBLEM AND HAS COME UP WITH VERY FEW ANSWERS. A QUESTION THAT HE HAD BEEN CONSIDERING WAS THE ONE RAISED IN REFTEL REGARDING AN APPROPRIATE FORUM FOR DISCUSSION. ALTHOUGH HE RECOGNIZED THAT SHORT SUPPLY SITUATION DID NOT LEND ITSELF TO TREATMENT ON THE BASIS OF INTERESTS OF DEVELOPED VERSUS LESSER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, HE NEVERTHELESS FELT LDC'S WOULD FIND GATT AN UNACCEPTABLE FORUM. HE HAD REACHED A TENTATIVE CONCLUSION THAT A NEW AND SPECIAL FORUM WOULD HAVE TO BE CREATED TO ADDRESS THIS SPECIFIC PROBLEM.

4. ON POSSIBLE USE OF SANCTIONS OR OTHER MEANS OF RETALIATION BY AFFECTED COUNTRIES HE OBSERVED THAT GAINING A CONSENSUS, PARTICULARLY AMONG LDC'S WOULD BE DIFFICULT.
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5. DIAZ CONCLUDED THAT THE MATTER WITH ALL ITS DIFFICULTIES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED URGENTLY. HE SAID THAT THE U.S. APPROACH WILL BE USED AS A BASIS FOR EXTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS WITHIN THE GOM AND THAT MORE SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS WILL BE TRANSMITTED TO US IN DUE COURSE.

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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